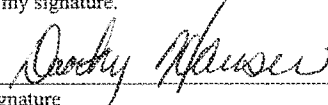


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Group Art Unit 2123

Appl. No. : 10/578,791
Confirmation No. : 8690
Applicant : Michael Weiler, et al.

Filed : May 3, 2006
Title : METHOD FOR
DETERMINING A BLANK
FORM OF AN ELASTIC
COMPONENT

I, Dorothy Hauser, hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed electronically on the United States Patent and Trademark Office's EFS-web with the Commissioner for Patents on the date of my signature.



Signature

August 12, 2009

Date of Signature

TC/A.U. : 2123
Examiner : Mary C. Jacob

Docket No. : 022862-1067-00

Customer No. : 023409

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

This communication is in reply to the Examiner's statement of Reasons for Allowance on the May 14, 2009 Notice of Allowance in the above-referenced patent application. No extension of time petition or fee is required to accompany this communication.

In the Examiner's comments referenced above, Applicant respectfully submits that the Reasons for Allowance set forth only some of the features and elements of claims 21, 22, 24, 25, 27 and 28, and only represent some of the reasons why these claims are allowable. Applicant respectfully submits that a number of other features, elements, and functional relationships claimed in claims 21, 22, 24, 25, 27 and 28 provide additional and different bases for allowance of the claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that each of claims 21, 22, 24, 25, 27 and 28 are separately patentable based upon combinations of features, elements, and relationships thereof claimed in claims 21, 22, 24, 25, 27 and 28 rather than only upon any one feature, element, or sub-combination of features and/or elements as suggested in the Examiner's comments on the Notice of Allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JMS', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Julianne M. Cozad Smith
Reg. No. 62,174

Docket No. 022862-1067-00
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